

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1-2 (Canceled).

3. (Previously Presented) The male element according to claim 16, wherein the range is 1.2-1.9.

4. (Previously Presented) The male element according to claim 3, wherein the diameter of the cylinder is less than 37 mm.

5. (Previously Presented) The male element according to claim 4, wherein the range is 1.3-1.6.

6. (Previously Presented) The male element according to claim 16 fixedly connected to an end of a rod or a tube of steel to form a drill rod having a through-going axial flush channel.

7. (Previously Presented) A drill bit for percussive rock drilling having an end portion provided with a central recess having an internal thread for percussive rock drilling provided along a portion of the recess, said recess comprising an abutment surface at an inner end thereof, wherein a length L' is defined from the abutment surface to a point where an

imaginary coaxial circular cylinder ceases to contact a crest of the thread, wherein a quotient of the length L' divided by the diameter D_i of the imaginary cylinder lies within the range of 1-2.

8. (Original) The drill bit according to claim 7, wherein the range is 1.2-1.9.

9. (Previously Presented) The drill bit according to claim 8, wherein the diameter D_i of the imaginary cylinder is less than 36 mm.

10. (Original) The drill bit according to claim 9, wherein the range is 1.3-1.6.

11. (Original) The drill bit according to claim 7, rigidly connected to an end of an rod or a tube of steel to form a drill rod having a through-going axial flush channel.

12. (Canceled).

13. (Previously Presented) The threaded joint according to claim 17, wherein each of the first and second ranges is 1.2-1.9.

14. (Original) The threaded joint according to claim 13, wherein the diameter of each of the first and second cylinders is less than 37 mm.

15. (Original) The threaded joint according to claim 14, wherein each of the first and second ranges is 1.3-1.6.

16. (Currently Amended) A male element for percussive rock drilling, the male element having a front end portion on which an external thread for percussive rock drilling is provided; a front end surface of the male element comprising an abutment surface for the transfer of impact waves; said thread including a full profile region of constant first cross-sectional area disposed adjacent a front end of said thread, wherein a length L of the male element is defined as a length from a plane of ~~the abutment surface~~ an impact surface of an imaginary cylinder that touches a crest of the thread to a point where the thread ceases to be at full profile, wherein a quotient of said length L divided by the diameter of the imaginary cylinder, lies within the range of 1-2; said thread including a last turn whose cross-sectional area gradually increases to be greater than said first cross-sectional area of said full profile region to define a thread exit.

17. (Previously Presented) A threaded joint between a male portion and a drill bit for percussive rock drilling, said male portion comprising at least one male thread for percussive rock drilling, an end surface of the male portion comprising a first abutment surface for the transfer of impact waves, said drill bit provided with a central recess comprising an internal female thread for percussive rock drilling provided along a portion of the recess, said recess comprising a second abutment surface at an inner end thereof, wherein a first length L' is defined from the second abutment surface to a point where a first coaxial circular imaginary cylinder C' ceases to contact a crest of the thread, wherein a quotient of said first length L divided by a diameter of the first cylinder lies within a first range of 1-2; said male thread including a full profile region of constant first cross sectional area disposed adjacent a front end of said male thread, wherein a second imaginary cylinder touches the crest of said full

profile region; said male thread including a last turn whose cross-sectional area gradually increases to be greater than said first cross sectional area of said full profile region to define a thread exit; wherein a length L of the male portion is defined as a length from a plane of the first abutment surface to a point where the thread ceases to be at full profile, wherein a quotient of said length L divided by a diameter of the second imaginary cylinder, lies within a second range of 1-2.